IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 11 and 15 and add new claims 17-19 as follows:

A1

11. (Amended) A method of producing said truncated glucanase of claim 1, comprising:

(a) growing in a culture medium a bacterial strain containing a gene encoding for a wild-type 1,3-1,4-β-D-glucanase from *Fibrobacter succinogenes*,

(b) centrifuging said culture medium to produce a supernatant,

(c) incubating said supernatant to produce said truncated glucanase, and

(d) collecting and purifying said truncated glucanase from said supernatant.

A2

15. (Amended) A method of producing said truncated glucanase of claim 1, comprising:

(a) amplifying a DNA fragment using a PCR method from a DNA template containing a gene encoding for a wild-type glucanase from *Fibrobacter succinogenes*, said DNA fragment substantially corresponding to a portion of said gene,

(b) subcloning said amplified DNA fragment in an expression vector,

(c) transferring said expression vector harbouring said DNA fragment into a host strain,

(d) growing said host strain in a culture medium for a period of time and inducing expression of said DNA fragment, with or without adding an inducer, to produce a sufficient amount of protein products, and

(e) collecting and purifying protein expression products from said culture medium.

A3 ADP?

17. The method of claim 11, wherein said gene encoding for a wild-type 1,3-1,4-β-D-glucanase is carried in a plasmid.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising, between step(a) and step(b), an additional step of adding to said culture medium an inducer to induce expression of said gene.

19. The method of claim 15, wherein said host strain is a bacterial strain.